

Message Text

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42

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 EB-07 /061 W

----- 076261

R 291210Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5058

AMEMBASSY LISBON

INFO AMEMBASSY LILONGWE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MILI, PPNS, EGEN, PO, MZ

SUBJECT: COMMENTS OF CABORA BASSA RESIDENT

REF: (A) MAPUTO 1095; (B) LISBON 6503

1. EMBOFF MET WITH TWO PORTUGUESE EMPLOYEES OF ZAMCO, THE CONSORTIUM BUILDING CABORA BASSA DAM, ON SEPTEMBER 25. THEY VISITED MAPUTO FOR THE WEEKEND AND RESIDE IN SONGO AT CABORA BASSA SITE.

2. BOTH SOURCES REITERATED ESSENTIALS CONTAINED REFTTEL A, SAID THAT THERE WAS NO NEW INFORMATION ON MISSING AIRCRAFT OR PASSENGERS AND THAT LOCAL COMMUNITY HAS GIVEN THEM UP AS LOST. NO SERIOUS SEARCHES BEING CONDUCTED CURRENTLY. LOCAL EXPATRIATE PORTUGUES AND ZAMCO OFFICIALS MADE WEEKLONG SEARCH OF AREA BY BOAT AND CHARTER AIRCRAFT TO NO AVAIL. GENERAL BELIEF IS THAT PLANE WAS ERRONEOUSLY SHOT DOWN BY FRELIKMO SOLDIERS AND WRECKAGE HIDDEN TO COVER UP MISTAKE, BUT THEY ADMITTED THERE NO HARD EVIDENCE FOR THIS SUSPICION.

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3. ON CABORA BASSA SCHEME, THEY STATED THAT FRENCH

CIVIL ENGINEERING CONSORTIUM CCI ON SCHEDULE AND WILL
FINISH ITS PART IN ANOTHER SEVERAL WEEKS. HOWEVER,
THE ACTUAL TURBINE INSTALLATION AND INSTALLATION OF
GENERATING EQUIPMENT, BEING PERFORMED BY THE GERMAN
GROUP, STILL HAS A LONG WAY TO GO. FOUR OF FIVE TUR-
BINES NOW INSTALLED AND BEING TESTED. IT TRUE THAT
LARGE TRANSFORMER WAS TRAPPED ON WRONG SIDE OF BRIDGE
WHEN RHODESIAN RAIDERS BLEW UP PUNGUE BRIDGE IN AUGUST.
IT STILL THERE. SOURCES WOULD GIVE NO ESTIMATE OF HOW
LONG IT WOULD TAKE BEFORE CABORA BASSA BEGAN GENERATING
COMMERCIAL AMOUNTS OF POWER EXCEPT TO SAY IT CERTAINLY
WON'T HAPPEN IN 1976.
DE PREE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: CunninFX
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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